

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 10-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended, claims 7-9 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 10-15 have been added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. The Office Action objects to the drawings. Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments and the enclosed Request for Approval of Drawing Amendments obviate the grounds for the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

B. The Office Action objects to the title. By this Amendment, the title is amended to "THIN PROJECTOR." Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments obviate the grounds for the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

C. The Office Action objects to the disclosure for informalities. Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments obviate the grounds for the objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure is respectfully requested.

D. The Office Action rejects claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments obviate the grounds for the objection. In particular, claim 8 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §112 is respectfully requested.

E. The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,343,862 B1 to Sawai et al (hereinafter “Sawai”). The objection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Sawai does not disclose every claimed feature as required under Section 102. For example, Sawai fails to disclose at least a feature of a polarization beam split array including a plurality of polarization split planes and a plurality of optical output planes, wherein the polarization split planes are slanted to receive from the lens part P-wave and S-wave beams, and are configured to form a triangle with the optical output plane at a central part of the polarization beam split array so that two slanted polarization split planes are symmetrically facing each other in an opposite direction and combinations thereof as recited in claim 1.

In contrast, Applicant respectfully submits that polarized beam splitters disclosed in Sawai are configured so that the lenses are positioned in the same direction at both sides from the center. See for example, PBS prism array 25 shown in Figure 5 of Sawai that includes PBS films 25a angled by 45 degrees relative to the optical axis of a relay optical system 24 and are parallel to and equidistant from one another. See column 14 lines 30-43 of Sawai. Applicant respectfully submits that Sawai does not teach or suggest any modification to its disclosure that would result in at least a feature of the polarization beam split array including a plurality of polarization split planes configured to form a triangle with the optical output plane at a central part of the polarization beam split array so that two slanted polarization split planes are

symmetrically facing each other in an opposite direction and combinations thereof as recited in claim 1.

With respect to claim 3, Applicant respectfully submits that column 13, lines 66 - column 14, line 9 in Sawai disclose a kaleidoscope 22 that has a constant rectangular cross section with a 4:3 ratio. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Sawai does not teach or suggest at least features of a rod lens and combinations thereof as recited in claim 3.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1, and therefore also define patentable subject matter for at least that reason as well as their additionally recited features. Claims 7-9 are canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

F. The Office Action rejects claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sawai and U.S. Patent No. 6,144,420 to Jung. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As described above, Applicant respectfully submits that Sawai does not teach or suggest at least a feature of a polarization beam split array and combinations thereof as recited in claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Jung does not teach or suggest at least the features of the polarization beam split array and combinations thereof as recited in claim 1 and lacking from Sawai. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Sawai and Jung, individually, or in combination would not result in at least a feature of a polarization beam split array and combinations thereof as recited in claim 1.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 5-6 depend from claim 1, and therefore also define patentable subject matter for at least that reason as well as their additionally recited features. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

G. Claims 10-15 are newly added by this Amendment and believed to be in conditional for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, Carl R. Wesolowski, at the telephone number listed below.

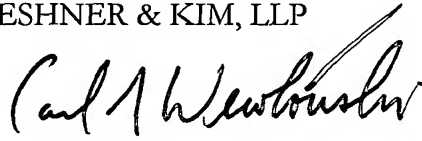
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/029,287

Docket No. K-0377

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enc: Request for Approval of Drawing Amendment